

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 AF-10 ARA-06
EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 IOE-00
OIC-02 SP-02 L-03 H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01 /107 W
-----201847Z 028801 /44

P 201508Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4096

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FODAG

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR SECRETARY BERGLAND AND ASSISTANT
SECRETARY HATHAWAY

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: FAO, UN, EAGR
SUBJ: PARTICIPATION OF TOP U.S. AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS IN MAJOR
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MEETINGS

1. IN MY COUNRTEY CALL ON FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL SAOUMA
APRIL 18, SAOUMA SAID HE HAD PARTICULARLY ENJOYED HIS
MEETING WITH SECRETARY BERGLAND RECENTLY IN WASHINTON,
AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SECRETARY BERGLAND WOULD BE ABLE
TO COME TO ROME TO PARTICIPATE IN AN IMPORTANT CONFERENCE.

2. SAOUMA MADE THIS SUGGESTION IN THE CONTEXT OF URGING
THE UNITED STATES TO CONTINUE TO TAKE A POSITIVE APPROACH
TO WORLD FOOD PROBLEMS, AND TO TAKE INITIATIVES AND SUPPORT
SAOUMA'S INITIATIVES WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY WE HAVE LEARNED THROUGH TELEPHONE CALLS
WITH DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND AGRICULTURE THAT SECRETARY
BERGLAND HAS AGREED TO ATTEND THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL WORLD
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FOOD COUNCIL MEETING IN MANILA JUNE 20-23. WE UNDERSTAND
ALSO THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY DALE HATHAWAY, WHO IS WELL
KNOWN AND HIGHLY REGARDED HERE, PLANS TO ATTEND BOTH
THE FAO COUNCIL MEETING OF JUNE 6-17, AND THE WORLD
FOOD COUNCIL MEETING IN MANILA.

4. COMMENT: I BELIEVE THAT HIGH-LEVEL DEPARTMENT OF

AGRICULTURE REPRESENTATION IN IMPORTANT FOOD AND AGRI-
CULTURE MEETINGS WOULD MAKE A HIGHLY FAVORABLE IMPRES-
SION ON OTHER COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES. ATTENDANCE OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL MANILA
MEETING BY SECRETARY BERGLAND IS AN EXCELLENT MOVE IN
THIS DIRECTION. THE FAO COUNCIL JUNE MEETING IS NOT A
MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING, I HOPE SECRETARY BERGLAND
MAY BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE FAO CONFERENCE HERE IN NOVEM-
BER. FOR OTHER MEETINGS OF IMPORTANCE, I URGE GENERALLY
THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TRY TO SEND AS HIGH RANKING
OFFICIALS OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION AS APPROPRIATE TO
THE MEETINGS, TO ENUNCIATE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE THE
POLICIES OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: I WOULD APPRECIATE OFFICIAL CON-
FIRMATION THAT SECRETARY BERGLAND WILL ATTEND THE MANILA
WORLD FOOD COUNCIL MEETING. WHEN CONVEYING THIS TO
DIRECTOR-GENERAL SAOUMA, I WOULD LIKE TO TELL HIM ALSO
THAT SECRETARY BERGLAND ALSO PLANS TO ATTEND THE FAO
CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER, AND WILL INCLUDE ROME IF HE
SHOULD VISIT EUROPE MEANWHILE, AND THAT ASSISTANT SECRE-
TARY HATHAWAY PLANS TO ATTEND THE FAO COUNCIL MEETING. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURE, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, MEETINGS, FOODS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME06451
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770137-0601
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770437/aaaabggi.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a210b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2747726
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PARTICIPATION OF TOP U.S. AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS IN MAJOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MEETINGS
TAGS: EAGR, IT, US, FAO, UN, (BERGLAND, ROBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a210b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009